

**Enrolled Minutes of the First Regular or Special Meeting
Of the Twenty-Seventh Highland Town Council
Special Meeting
Friday, January 6, 2012**

Special Meeting. The Twenty Seventh Town Council of the Town of Highland, Lake County, Indiana met in special session on Friday, January 6, 2012 at 7:00 O'clock p.m. in the regular place, the plenary meeting chambers of the Highland Municipal Building, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana.

The session was opened with Councilor Bernie Zemen leading the pledge of allegiance to the United States Flag and offering a prayer.

Pursuant to IC 36-5-2-7 and Section §30.04 of the Municipal Code, the Clerk-Treasurer called the meeting to order, caused the roll to be taken and took up the selection of the Town Council President, "which shall be first in order."

Roll Call: Councilors Bernie Zemen, Dan Vassar, Brian Novak and Konnie Kuiper were present. Councilor Mark Herak was absent. The Town Clerk-Treasurer, Michael W. Griffin was present to memorialize the proceedings. A quorum was attained.

Additional Officials Present: Rhett L. Tauber, Attorney at Law; Peter T. Hojnicky, Metropolitan Police Chief were also present.

In addition, Dennis Adams of the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners; and Ed Dabrowski, IT Director were also present.

(Mrs.) Christy Griffin, the Clerk-Treasurer's spouse; Abigail Griffin, the Clerk-Treasurer's daughter; and Kathy Winovich, the Clerk-Treasurer's Mother-in-Law were also present.

Special Orders:

1. Election of the **Town Council President** for 2012 pursuant to § 30.04 of the Highland Municipal Code. *(Once elected, Clerk-Treasurer will transfers gavel.)*

Councilor Vassar moved to elect Councilor Bernie Zemen as President of Town Council for 2012. Councilor Kuiper seconded. Upon a vote, viva voce, the motion passed. Councilor Bernie Zemen was elected the 60th President of the Town Council. The Clerk-Treasurer transferred the gavel and Councilor Zemen as Councilor President assumed the Chair.

2. Election of the **Town Council Vice President** for 2012, pursuant to § 30.04 of the Highland Municipal Code.

Councilor Novak moved to elect Dan Vassar as Vice President. Councilor Kuiper seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were four affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. Councilor Vassar was elected Vice President.

3. Selection and Appointment of Town Attorney.

Councilor Vassar moved to appoint Rhett L. Tauber and Tauber, Westland, and Bennett, PC as Town Attorney. Councilor Kuiper seconded. Upon a roll call vote, there were four affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. Rhett L. Tauber and the firm of Tauber, Westland and Bennett, P.C. were appointed.

4. Action to authorize and ratify the -scheduling of this special meeting of January 6, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. Section § 30.27 (E) of the Municipal Code, provides that the Town Council may hold special and other meetings. IC 36-1-4-16 permits ratification of the act.

Councilor Kuiper moved and Councilor Vassar seconded the authorization and ratification of the scheduling of this special meeting, which had been called without prior Council action. Upon a roll call vote, there were four affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. The meeting was ratified.

• **Statutory Boards and Commissions**

Executive Appointments (May be made in meeting or at another time)

(Appointments have been placed on agenda in case there is readiness to act)

1. **Redevelopment Commission** (3) appointments to be made by Town Council President. *(Note: currently serving Michael Maloney, Tom G. Crowel, and Bridget DeYoung)*

Council President Zemen announced the re-appointments of **Michael Maloney**, 8748 Prairie Avenue, Highland; **Tom G. Crowel**, 10132 White Oak Lane, Highland; and **Bridget DeYoung**, 2645-37th Street, Highland, to the Redevelopment Commission, for terms of one year.

Regional Statutory Commissions or Boards

2. **Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC): (1)** appointment to be made by Town Council President. *(Note: No action is necessary as the appointment continues unless the Town Council President wishes to make another appointment. Appointee must be an elected official of the community represented. Currently serving, Michael W. Griffin.)*

Council President Zemen announced that Councilor Novak had expressed interest in the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, and announced his appointment of Councilor **Brian Novak** to the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission.

Legislative Appointments

3. **Redevelopment Commission (2)** appointments to be made by Town Council. *(Note: (Note: currently serving Greg Kuzmar and Dominic Noce)*

Councilor Vassar moved and Councilor Novak seconded the re-appointment of Greg Kuzmar, 3139 Lakeside Drive, Highland and Dominic Noce, 2930 Condit, Highland to the Redevelopment Commission for a term of one year. Upon a roll call vote, there were four affirmatives and no negatives. The motion passed. Greg Kuzmar and Dominic Noce were re-appointed.

AFLAC and SECTION 125 Plan. With leave from the Council, the Clerk-Treasurer inquired about scheduling a meeting with representatives of AFLAC, the administrator of the Section 125 Plan for the Town, as had been requested by them in response to the recent inquiry by All-State to be considered for the opportunity to sell similar insurance products to municipal workers and possibly assume the Section 125 Plan. The Clerk-Treasurer also reported that the plan year was to end on January 31 and New Year enrollments for the medical flexible spending plans should be soon underway. Councilor Novak expressed disappointment with AFLAC apparent unwillingness to provide information for comparison and expressed no interest in meeting with the AFLAC representatives. The Town Councilors did not offer conflicting opinions on the matter.

Adjournment. Councilor Novak moved that the special meeting be adjourned. Councilor Kuiper seconded. Upon a vote *viva voce*, the motion passed. The special Town Council meeting of **Friday, January 6, 2012** was adjourned at 7:10 O'clock p.m.

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA
Highland Town Clerk-Treasurer